

Maryland Chiefs of Police Association Maryland Sheriffs' Association



MEMORANDUM

TO: The Honorable William C. Smith, Jr. Chairman and

Members of the Judicial Proceedings Committee

FROM: Chief of Staff David Morris, Co-Chair, MCPA, Joint Legislative Committee

Sheriff Darren Popkin, Co-Chair, MSA, Joint Legislative Committee

Andrea Mansfield, Representative, MCPA-MSA Joint Legislative Committee

DATE: February 10, 2022

RE: SB 356 Criminal Procedure – Expungement – Entitlement

POSITION: SUPPORT

The Maryland Chiefs of Police Association (MCPA) and the Maryland Sheriffs' Association (MSA) SUPPORT SB 356. These bills would prohibit the granting of an expungement to a convicted defendant that is placed on the sex offender registry.

The sex offender registry is, in part, designed to help protect potential future victims from convicted sexual predators by requiring the offender to register - thereby providing notice to communities. In allowing these offenders to be removed from the registry due to an expungement we are simply placing communities in harm's way and potentially creating more victims of these horrific crimes.

Prohibiting the granting of an expungement in these matters protects communities and future victims from potential harm these offenders. For these reasons MCPA and MSA SUPPORT SB 356 and urge a FAVORABLE Report.